

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

SECURITY INFORMATION

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# INFORMATION REPORT

## REPORT

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COUNTRY Bulgaria

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**SUBJECT** Para-Military Organizations:  
Interior Troops, Militia, and DOSO

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## Interior Troops

1. In addition to Border Guard troops there are special para-military troops called Vutreshni Voyski (Interior Troops) which are subordinate to the Minister of Interior and the Minister of National Defense. The recruiting and training of men and the assignment of officers to the units is the responsibility of the Minister of Defense. The units are directed by the Minister of Interior. The Interior Troops are an instrument of the DS (Durzhavna Sigurnost; State Security). The units are also used to assist the Militia and Border Guards. The headquarters of the Interior Troops is located in the building of the Ministry of Interior in Sofia. The Commander of the Interior Troops was General Ivan Gilin.
2. The Interior Troops are divided into 14 independent battalions, each of which has 600 men; each battalion is divided into six companies which consist of 100 men. Battalion headquarters are located as follows:
  - a. Two in Sofia, the "Volga" and the "Vitosha";
  - b. The "Don" battalion, commanded by Captain Anani Naydenov Anev, in Burgas;
  - c. The "Plamak" battalion, Yambol;
  - d. The "Baykal 5" battalion, Stara Zagora;
  - e. The "Baykal 6" battalion, Khaskovo;

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- f. An unidentified battalion, Plovdiv;
  - g. An unidentified battalion, Varna;
  - h. An unidentified battalion, Ruse;
  - i. An unidentified battalion, Shumen;
  - j. An unidentified battalion, Gorna Oryakhovitsa;
  - k. An unidentified battalion, Pleven;
  - l. An unidentified battalion, Vratsa; and
  - m. An unidentified battalion, Gorna Dzhumaya.
3. The Interior Troops are selected from Army recruits who have been members of Communist Youth organizations. Before being assigned to the Interior Troops, the recruits undergo four months of basic military training. Their period of military service is 36 months. All of the men in the Interior Troops are armed with Soviet submachine guns.
  4. Most of the officers of the Interior Troops are Army officers on active duty. Most of the non-commissioned officers are from the Militia or are graduates of the school for Border Guards and other para-military non-commissioned officers in Sofia.

Militia

5. The headquarters of the Militia is in Sofia. The Militia is commanded by Colonel Blagoi Penev. There are Militia offices in each of the districts; these offices are under the command of the Ministry of Interior representative in the district and the District People's Council. Also in each of the districts there are Militia offices which are under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Interior representative to the district, the department Militia office, and the local District People's Council.

DOSO

6. Armed groups of civilians have been organized to aid the Militia in time of emergencies. In March 1951, these auxiliary organizations were given the name DOSO (Dobrovolna Organizatsi ~~za~~ ~~Shcheystvi na~~ ~~Otbranata~~; Voluntary Organization for Defense Assistance). DOSO units, which are called on only in an emergency such as local search or pursuit, are under the jurisdiction of the local Militia office.

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